### DT07 Rec'd PCT/PTO 0 7 JUL 2004

Practitioner's Docket No.

818,096

**PATENT** 

Preliminary Classification:

Proposed Class:

Subclass:

NOTE: "All applicants are requested to include a preliminary classification on newly filed patent applications. The preliminary classification, preferably class and subclass designations, should be identified in the upper right-hand comer of the letter of transmittal accompanying the application papers, for example 'Proposed Class 2, subclass 129.' " M.P.E.P. § 601, 7th ed.

### TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE U.S. DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)— ENTRY INTO THE U.S. NATIONAL STAGE UNDER CHAPTER I

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED PCT/GB03/00306 23 Jan. 2003 23 Jan. 2002

IIILE OF INVENTION TREE SHELTER

APPLICANT(S)

JONES, Adrianne Jacqueline

Box PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231
ATTENTION: DO/US

#### EXPRESS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10\*

(Express Mail label number is mandatory.) (Express Mail certification is optional.)

Label No. \_ EV335966239US hn S. Egbert

(type or print name of person mailing paper)

Signature of person certifying

WARNING: Certificate of mailing (first class) or facsimile transmission procedures of 37 C.F.R. 1.8 cannot be used to obtain a date of mailing or transmission for this correspondence.

\*WARNING: Each paper or fee filed by "Express Mail" must have the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label placed thereon prior to mailing, 37 C.F.R. 1.10(b).

"Since the filing of correspondence under § 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will not be granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

(Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated Office (DO/US)—Entry into National Stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 [13-6]—page 1 of 10)

- NOTE: The time period for commencement of the national stage in the U.S. does not depend upon whether a Demand under PCT Article 31 has been filed. It is no longer necessary to provide separately for the time period for filing the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c) for an: (1) application in which a Demand under Article 31 has not been filed within nineteen months form the priority date and (2) applications in which a Demand under Article 31 has been filed within nineteen months from the priority date.
- NOTE: The completion of those filing requirements that can be made at a time later than 20 months from the priority date results from the Commissioner exercising his judgment under the authority granted under 35 U.S.C. § 371(d). The filing receipt will show the actual date of receipt of the last item completing the entry into the national phase. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.491(b), which states: "An international application enters the national stage when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 USC 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.495."
- WARNING: Where the items are those that can be submitted to complete the entry of the international application into the national phase, the application is still considered to be in the international stage.

  And if mailing procedures are utilized to obtain a date the express mail procedure of 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 must be used (because international application papers are not covered by an ordinary certificate of mailing. 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(2)(xi)).
- WARNING: Documents and fees must be clearly identified as a submission to enter the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371, otherwise the submission will be considered as being made under 35 U.S.C. § 111. 37 C.F.R. § 1.494(g).
- WARNING: Abandonment is governed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.495 as follows:

37 C.F.R. § 1.495

(h) An international application becomes abandoned as to the United States thirty months from the priority date if the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section have not been complied with within thirty months form the priority date. If the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section are complied with within thirty months from the priority date but either of any required translation of the international application as filed or the oath or declaration are not timely filed, an international application will become abandoned as to the United States upon expiration of the time period pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section.

37 C.F.R. § 1.495

- (b) To avoid abandonment of the application, the applicant shall furnish to the United States Patent and Trademark Office not later than the expiration of thirty months from the priority date:
  - (1) A copy of the international application, unless it has been previously communicated by the International Bureau or unless it was originally filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office; and
    - (2) The basic national fee (see § 1.492(a)).
- 1. Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated Office (DO/US) the following items under 35 U.S.C. § 371:
  - a. This express request to immediately begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. § 371(f)).
  - b. 
    The U.S. National Fee (35 U.S.C. § 371(c)(1)) and
  - Other fees (37 C.F.R. § 1.492), as indicated below:

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#### 2. Fees

CLAIMS FEE	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULA- TIONS
₩.	TOTAL CLAIMS	32 <b>—20</b> =	12	×\$ 18.00=	\$ 216
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2 —3=		×\$ 84.00=	
	MULTIPLE DEPI	ENDENT CLAIM(S) (if	applicable)	+ \$280.00	
BASIC FEE**	The internat paid to the Authority:				
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				Subtotal	568
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:	CFR 1.21(h)). (Se	ig the enclosed assignee Item 10 below). Se (37 C.F.R. § 3.34)".		•	
TOTAL			Total	Fees enclosed	<b>\$</b> 568

<sup>\*</sup>See attached Preliminary Amendment Reducing the Number of Claims.

(Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated Office (DO/US)—Entry into National Stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 [13-6]—page 3 of 10)

<sup>\*\*</sup>WARNING: "To avoid abandonment of the application, the applicant shall furnish to the United States Patent and Trademark Office not later than the expiration of thirty months from the priority date: \* \* \* (2) the basic national fee (see § 1.492(a))." 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(b).

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- Applicant hereby asserts status as a small entity under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(c) deals with the assertion of small entity status, whether by a written specific declaration thereof or by payment as a small entity of the basic filing fee or the fee for the entry into the national phase as states:

- "(c) Assertion of small entity status. Any party (person, small business concern or nonprofit organization) should make a determination, pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section, of entitlement to be accorded small entity status based on the definitions set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, and must, in order to establish small entity status for the purpose of paying small entity fees, actually make an assertion of entitlement to small entity status, in the manner set forth in paragraphs (c)(1) or (c)(3) of this section, in the application or patent in which such small entity fees are to be paid.
  - (1) Assertion by writing. Small entity status may be established by a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status. A written assertion must:
    - (i) Be clearly identifiable;
    - (ii) Be signed (see paragraph (c)(2) of this section); and
    - (iii) Convey the concept of entitlement to small entity status, such as by stating that applicant is a small entity, or that small entity status is entitled to be asserted for the application or patent. While no specific words or wording are required to assert small entity status, the intent to assert small entity status must be clearly indicated in order to comply with the assertion requirement.
  - (2) Parties who can sign and file the written assertion. The written assertion can be signed by:
    - (i) One of the parties identified in §§ 1.33(b) (e.g., an attorney or agent registered with the Office), §§ 3.73(b) of this chapter notwithstanding, who can also file the written assertion;
    - (ii) At least one of the individuals identified as an inventor (even though a §§ 1.63 executed oath or declaration has not been submitted), notwithstanding §§ 1.33(b)(4), who can also file the written assertion pursuant to the exception under §§ 1.33(b) of this part; or
    - (iii) An assignee of an undivided part interest, notwithstanding §§ 1.33(b)(3) and 3.73(b) of this chapter, but the partial assignee cannot file the assertion without resort to a party identified under §§ 1.33(b) of this part.
  - (3) Assertion by payment of the small entity basic filing or basic national fee. The payment, by any party, of the exact amount of one of the small entity basic filing fees set forth in §§ 1.16(a), (f), (g), (h), or (k), or one of the small entity basic national fees set forth in §§ 1.492(a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), or (a)(5), will be treated as a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status even if the type of basic filing or basic national fee is inadvertently selected in error.
    - (i) If the Office accords small entity status based on payment of a small entity basic filing or basic national fee under paragraph (c)(3) of this section that is not applicable to that application, any balance of the small entity fee that is applicable to that application will be due along with the appropriate surcharge set forth in §§ 1.16(e), or §§ 1.16(f).
    - (ii) The payment of any small entity fee other than those set forth in paragraph (c)(3) of this section (whether in the exact fee amount or not) will not be treated as a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status and will not be sufficient to establish small entity status in an application or a patent."

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5.				ments to the claims of the International application und	ler PCT Article 19
ΝΟΤΕ	tr n w	ranslati ot late	ion o er tha are no	1.495(d): "A copy of any amendments to the claims made under if those amendments into English, if they were made in another languant the expiration of thirty months from the priority date. Amendments ot received by the expiration of thirty months from the priority date if."	ge, must be furnished under PCT Article 19
NOTE	s a 1	leletec ubmitt dvises 9 ame Section	d) wa ed by : "Of endme 11.12	of January 7, 1993, dealing with the prior practice, incicated that 37 C is "amended to clarify the existing practice that PCT Article 19 A by 20 months from the priority date, which time may not be extended for course, the failure to do so does not result in loss of the subject ents. The applicant may submit that subject matter in a preliminary at 21. In many cases, filing an amendment under Section 1.121 is preferaterors may be corrected." 1147 O.G. 29-40, at 35. See item 11(c)	mendments must be d." This Notice further matter of PCT Article mendment filed under the since grammatical
		a.		are transmitted herewith.	
		b.		have been transmitted	
			i.	☐ by the International Bureau. Date of mailing of the (from form PCT/IB/308):	e amendment
			ii.	☐ by applicant on(Da	ite)
		c.		have not been transmitted, as	
			i.	no notification has been received that the Inter- Authority has received the Search Copy.	ernational Search
			ii.	☐ the Search Copy was received by the International Authority, but the Search Report has not yet bee receipt of Search Copy (from form PCT/ISA/202):	n issued. Date of
			iii.	☐ applicant chose not to make amendments under Date of mailing of Search Report (from form	r PCT Article 19. n PCT/ISA/210):
			iv.	☐ the time limit for the submission of amendments had the amendments, or a statement that amendment made, will be transmitted before the expiration of the PCT Rule 46.1.	nts have not been
6.				slation of the amendments to the claims under PCT A S.C. § 371(c)(3)):	rticle 19
		a.		is transmitted herewith.	
		b.		is not required as the amendments were made in the	English language.
		c.		has not been transmitted for reasons indicated at po	oint 5(c) above.
7.	X			h or declaration of the inventor, including power of at c)(4)) complying with 35 U.S.C. § 115	torney, (35 U.S.C.
		a.		was previously submitted by applicant on	(Date)
		b.		is submitted herewith, and such oath or declaration	
			i.	☐ is attached to the application.	
			ii.	☐ identifies the application and any amendments 19 that were transmitted as stated in points 3(b) or states that they were reviewed by the inventor, as req § 1.70.	(c) and 5(b); and
			iii.	図 will follow.	

(Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated Office (DO/US)—Entry into National Stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 [13-6]—page 6 of 10)

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(c): "If applicant complies with paragraph (b) of this section before expiration of thirty months from the priority date but omits . . . the oath or declaration of the inventor (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4) and § 1.497), if a declaration of inventorship in compliance with § 1.497 has not been previously submitted in the international application under PCT Rule 4.17(iv) within the time limits provided for in PCT Rule 26ter.1, applicant will be so notified and given a period of time within which to file the . . . oath or declaration in order to prevent abandonment of the application. . . . The payment of the surcharge set forth in § 1.492(e) is required for acceptance of the oath or declaration of the inventor later than the expiration of thirty months after the priority date."

#### Other document(s) or information included:

Ο.	(A)	AII	international Search Report of Declaration under PCT Article 17(2)(a):
		a.	☑ is transmitted herewith.
		b.	has been transmitted by the International Bureau. Date of mailing (from form PCT/IB/308):
		C.	is not required, as the application was searched by the United States International Searching Authority.
		d.	☐ will be transmitted promptly upon request.
		e.	☐ has been submitted by applicant on (Date)
		f.	$\square$ is not transmitted, as the international search has not yet issued.
9.		An	Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:
WAF	RNING	: 18	93.03(g) Information Disclosure Statement in a National Stage Application

"When an international application is filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), prior art documents may be cited by the examiner in the international search report and/or the international preliminary examination report. When a national stage application is filed under 35 U.S.C. 371, or a national application is filed under 35 U.S.C. 111 claiming benefit of the filing date of the international application, it is often desirable to have the examiner consider the documents cited in the international application when examining the national application.

"As a result of an agreement among the European Patent Office (EPO), Japanese Patent Office (JPO), and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), copies of documents cited in the international search report issued by any one of these International Searching Authority Offices generally are being sent to the other Offices when designated in the international application. Accordingly, in many national stage applications where the international search was conducted by the EPO, JPO, or USPTO, copies of the documents cited in the international search report are made available to the examiner in the national stage application.

"When all the requirements for a national stage application have been completed, applicant is notified (Form PCT/DO/EO/903) of the acceptance of the application under 35 U.S.C. 371, including an itemized list of the items received. The itemized list includes an indication of whether a copy of the international search report and copies of the references cited therein are present in the national stage file. The examiner will consider the documents cited in the international search report, without any further action by applicant under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, when both the international search report and copies of the documents are indicated to be present in the national stage file. The examiner will note the consideration in the first Office action. There is no requirement that the examiners list the documents on a PTO-892 form. See form paragraphs 6.53, 6.54, and 6.55 (reproduced in MPEP § 609). Otherwise, applicant must follow the procedure set forth in 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 in order to ensure that the examiner considers the documents cited in the international search report.

"This practice applies only to documents cited in the international search report relative to a national stage application filed under 35 U.S.C. 371. It does not apply to documents cited in an international preliminary examination report that are not cited in the search report. It does not apply to applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) claiming the benefit of an international application filing date."

(Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated Office (DO/US)—Entry into National Stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 [13-6]—page 7 of 10)

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	a.	☐ is tr	ransmitted he	ewith.		1000	ONEID D	/ ,
		Also tra	ansmitted here	with is (are)		٠		
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			Copies of ci	tations listed	Ė			
	b.		be transmitte equirements ι				of submission	วท
NOTE: 3	37 C.F.	.R. § 1.97						
			tion disclosure st the following tin		e considered by	the Office if filed	d by the applica	≀∩t
		) Within thi national ap	ree months of th plication.	e date of entry	of the national :	stage as set forti	in § 1.491 in a	an
	c.	☐ was	previously su	bmitted by a	applicant on .	····	(Date)	
10.	An	assignm	ent document	is transmitt	ed herewith t	for recording.	A separate	
			R SHEET FOR T APPLICATIO		NT (DOCUME	ENT) ACCOMF	'ANYING NE	W
		FORM I	PTO—1595					
	is a	lso attac	ched.					
		☐ Pleas	se mail the re	corded assi	gnment docu	ment to:		
		i. 🗆	the person wi	nose signatu	re and addre	ess appears b	elow.	
		ii. 🗆	the following:					
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11. 🛚	Ado		ocuments					
	a.	☐ Copy	y of request (	PCT/RO/101	) WO 03/06	1369		
	b.	K interi	national Public	cation ivo				
			Specification,		drawing			
			Front page or	•				
	C.		minary amend	ment (37 C.	F.R. § 1.121)			
	d.	Othe	r					
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(Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated Office (DO/US)—Entry into National Stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 [13-6]—page 8 of 10)

12. 🕸	The	abo	ve checked items are being transmitted
	a.	X	before 30 months from any claimed priority date.
	b.		after 30 months.
			···
	Petitior after 20		rive (37 C.F.R. § 1.137(a) or (b)) is necessary if 35 U.S.C. § 371 requirements are submitted ths.
13. 🗆	Cer app	tain olicar	requirements under 35 U.S.C. § 371 were previously submitted by the at on (Date) namely:
		AU	THORIZATION TO CHARGE ADDITIONAL FEES
WARNIN			ely count claims, especially multiple dependant claims, to avoid unexpected high charges claims are authorized.
	or futur as inco charge a cons for an o in § 1 reply re	re repli irporati all re tructiv extens 1.17(a)	quest may be submitted in an application that is an authorization to treat any concurrent y, requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, ting a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. An authorization to quired fees, fees under § 1.17, or all required extension of time fees will be treated as the petition for an extension of time in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition tion of time under this paragraph for its timely submission. Submission of the fee set forth will also be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent ag a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission." 37 36(a)(3).
	reason	able ti	f twenty-five dollars or less will not be returned unless specifically requested within a me, nor will the payer be notified of such amounts; amounts over twenty-five dollars may by check or, if requested, by credit to a deposit account." 37 C.F.R. § 1.26(a).
	c Ple ma	ase o	charge, in the manner authorized above, the following additional fees that required by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application:
		X	37 C.F.R. § 1.492(a)(1), (2), (3), and (4) (filing fees)
WARNIN	I <b>G:</b> Be	ecause sults i	e failure to pay the national fee within 20 months without extension (37 C.F.R. § 1.494(b)(2)), in abandonment of the application, it would be best to always check the above box.
			37 C.F.R. § 1.492(b), (c), and (d) (presentation of extra claims)
	must o set for	nly be respo orize	itional fees for excess or multiple dependent claims not paid on filing or on later presentation paid or these claims cancelled by amendment, prior to the expiration of the time period nse by the PTO in any notice of fee deficiency (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(d)), it might be best not the PTO to charge additional claim fees, except possibly when dealing with amendments tion.
			37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (application processing fees)
			37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1)-(5) (extension fees pursuant to § 1.136(a)).
			37 C.F.R. § 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b)).

(Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated Office (DO/US)—Entry into National Stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 [13-6]—page 9 of 10)

### DT04 Rec'd PCT/PT0 0 7 JUL 2004

NOTE: Section 1.311(b) provides that an authorization to charge the issue fee (§ 1.18) to a deposit account may be filed in an individual application only after the mailing of the notice of allowance. Accordingly, general authorizations to pay fees and specific authorizations to pay the issue fee that are filed prior to the mailing of a notice of allowance will generally not be treated as requesting payment of the issue fee and will not be given effect to act as a reply to the notice of allowance. Applicant, when paying the issue fee, should submit a new authorization to charge fees, such as by completing box 6b on the current PTOL-85B form. Where no reply to the notice of allowance is received, the application will stand abandoned notwithstanding the presence of general authorizations to pay fees or a specific authorization to pay the issue fee that were submitted prior to mailing of the notice of allowance. Where an attempt is made to pay the issue fee but an incorrect amount is submitted, § 1.311(b)(1), or where the Office's issue fee transmittal form (currently PTOL-85(B)) is completed by applicant and submitted, § 1.311(b)(2), in reply to a notice of allowance, an exception will be made. Such submissions will operate as a request to charge the issue fee to any deposit account identified in a previously filed (i.e., submitted prior to the mailing of the notice of allowance) authorization to charge fees, and will be allowed to act as payment of the correct issue fee. § 1.311(b). See also the change to § 1.26(b). Notice of September 8, 2000, Fed. Reg. 54603-54683, at 54646 and 54647.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b) requires "Notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status must be filed in the application . . . prior to paying or at the time of paying . . . issue fee. . .." From the wording of 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b): (a) notification of change of status must be made even if the fee is paid as "other than a small entity" and (b) no notification is required if the change is to another small entity.

37 C.F.R. § 1.492(e) and (f) (surcharge fees for filing the declaration and/or filing an English translation of an International Application later than 20 months after the priority date.

Reg. No.: 30,627

Tel. No.: (713) 224-8080

Customer No.: 24106

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

John S. Eppert

(type or print name of practitioner)
Harrison & Egbert

412 Main St., 7th Floor

P.O. Address

Houston, Texas 77002